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## Southern Educator

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# Southern Educator

College of Education

Georgia Southern University

Volume 14, Issue 1

Fall 2003

## Calling All Alumni

### Wanted: Teachers Who Made A Difference

Do you remember a university professor who made a difference, influenced your development as a teacher? If so, we'd like to hear from you. Share with us who made a difference and how they influenced you. Simply e-mail Donna Colson at [dscolson@gasou.edu](mailto:dscolson@gasou.edu) with the information by December 5, 2003. Look for "Teachers Who Made A Difference" in the next issue of *Southern Educator*.

## Fall 2003 Enrollment

As of press time, a total of 1,496 undergraduate students are enrolled and working toward the Bachelor of Science in Education.

A total of 1,278 graduate students are enrolled and working on M.Ed., Ed.S. or Ed.D. degrees or teaching certifications.

## New Student Convocation



*"Winning Academically" was the highlighted theme of the New Student Convocation*

Three-hundred eighty new education freshman and transfers to the University attended the annual summer SOAR (Southern's Orientation, Advisement and Registration) sessions this past summer. Three very talented SOAR Leaders, Brandon James, Political Science Education; Melissa Muetzel, Early Childhood Education; and Lara Hammond, Communication Arts, assisted the Education Advisement Center's staff to welcome the students.

The beginning of the new academic year was kicked off with a New Student Convocation coordinated by Chris Thompson of the Advisement Center. The event was held in the College of Education Building on August 18, 2003, for all new education majors. Dr. Ronnie Sheppard, Teaching and Learning Department Chair, welcomed the new students and introduced Dr. Jane Page, the keynote speaker for the event. Dr. Page, professor in the Department of Curriculum, Foundations and Reading and Georgia Southern booster

extraordinaire, was an engaging, lively speaker who challenged the students to continue the "winning tradition" here at Georgia Southern University. She talked about staying on top of the game in every way, suggested ways to defeat the "Statesboro Blues"—those times we all get a bit down—and focused attention on other topics including alcohol and drug use, sexual assault and becoming involved on-campus. Dr. Page wore her best Georgia Southern outfit, the blue sparkling hat, and concluded her presentation with a song for the students, a modified version of "I Believe You Can Fly."

Each of the program coordinators, Dr. Missy Bennett, P-12 & Secondary Programs; Dr. Mary Ann Nelson (filling in for Dr. Diana Hammitte), Special Education; Dr. Judi Robbins, Early Childhood Education; and Dr. Deborah Thomas, Middle Grades Education, welcomed the students. As the coordinators stood to discuss their programs, they asked for a show of

hands from any students in that major. This led to a lively challenge of "would anyone like to change their major and here are the reasons why." The students enjoyed the humor of the challenges.

The Student Government Association representatives, led by Ms. Charisse Perkins, Vice President for Academic Affairs, introduced themselves and challenged the new students to become involved in SGA and other organizations. Ms. Perkins discussed her work with Dean Chance in establishing a student advisory board for the College of Education.

Following the program, light refreshments were served in the lobby area where faculty and new students spent time chatting and getting acquainted with one another.



SOUTHERN EDUCATOR  
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Georgia Southern University  
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## Educators and Time

## Dean's Corner



*Educators have a special respect for time.  
Time in the classroom is always fleeting—  
Such a little time to make such a great difference in the lives we touch.  
We understand that some moments are as big as years in the futures of our students.*

*Educators invest only in the future—  
Planting the seeds that only time can mature.  
Time, invested in the future of students, may well be the only inheritance we leave.  
But how could anyone ask for greater?*

*When time reaches back and fetches our youth  
And the speckled vanity of life is gone,  
We, unlike many others, have discovered a way to fool time.  
We will live forever in the lives of the students we have touched, loved and taught.*

*Time, to an educator has special meaning.  
It is an investment in the future.*

Cindi Chance

Last year, like the one before, was a very productive year for all of us. To excel in the many accomplishments listed below, university and partner school faculty, alumni, community supporters, and many others have graciously shared their most precious resource—time. With budget cuts impacting education at all levels, this willingness to go the extra mile demonstrates a commitment to the profession that is unequaled in any other professional group.

The College reorganization, developed and approved by faculty committees representing all stakeholders, was approved by the Board of Regents at the Spring meeting. This resulted in the consolidation of departments to three:

- Leadership, Technology and Human Development—Dr. Randy Carlson, Interim Chair
- Teaching and Learning—Dr. Ronnie Sheppard, Chair
- Curriculum, Foundations and Reading—Dr. Sandra Nettles, Chair

In addition to the three departments, the Georgia Center for Education Renewal was approved. The Center will coordinate school improvement/reform initiatives, will serve as a direct contact and conduit of information for schools, and will seek external support for such efforts. There are no permanent faculty in the Center. The Goizueta Endowed Professor, when hired, will coordinate Center activities. A partial list of the many additional College accomplishments include:

- Faculty committees, representing all stakeholders, completed and submitted the Level III Strategic Plan for the College.
- Increased enrollments resulting from recruitment and support from faculty, staff, alumni and friends of the College.
- Restructuring of the Ed.S. degree.
- Significant increase in external funding to support improved teaching and learning P-16.
- Launching the first Professional Development District in the United States.
- Development and first meeting of the Alumni Advisory Board and the Board of Advisors.
- Hosting and co-sponsoring with our P-16 partners, the largest at-risk conference in the United States (approximately 1,000 in attendance).
- Beginning a program to recruit certified teachers from our partner university in Xalapa, Mexico, to teach in Georgia schools.
- Implementing the largest Knowledgeable Teacher course in Georgia to support teachers as they seek National Board certification.
- Increased off-campus and online course offerings.
- Developed an alternative residency model for the Ed.D. in Curriculum Studies that allows access to the Ed.D. for full-time teachers at a distance.
- Extended, in conjunction with Armstrong Atlantic, the Ed.D. in Education Leadership to the Savannah area.

It has been a very busy and productive time. Though budget cuts increased workloads at all levels, all P-16 educators associated with the College of Education at Georgia Southern University are to be commended for their positive attitudes and dedication to students, and for sharing their most precious resources—their time and energy. Thank you all.

## Dr. He Received the Jack Miller Outstanding Educator Award

Dr. Ming Fang He, associate professor in the Department of Curriculum, Foundations and Reading, was presented the *Jack Miller Outstanding Educator Award* at the College's fall faculty meeting. Established by Jack Miller who was Dean of the College of Education from 1986 to 1991, the award recognizes a full-time faculty member in the College for significant accomplishments in the combined areas of teaching, scholarship and service.

Dr. He, in her sixth year at Georgia Southern, teaches curriculum theory at the graduate level and foundations of education at the undergraduate level. She is very involved in mentoring doctoral students and has served on thirty dissertation committees. Dr. He's own research efforts have resulted in numerous publications, presentations, six book chapters, and two books. She serves on the editorial board for three major journals in her discipline. Dr. He's various service activities extend from within her department and college to the University campus and the broader community with program development and facilitator roles at many national and international conferences.

As recipient of the Jack Miller Outstanding Educator Award, Dr. He will have her name placed on the permanent plaque honoring all recipients and receive \$1,500 for use in the enhancement of her teaching, scholarship and service.

Past recipients of the award are: Amy Heaston (1994), Deborah Thomas (1995), Mike Richardson (1996), Dale Grant (1997), Wendy Chambers (1998), Marlynn Griffin (1999), Bud Pool (2000), Diane Zigo (2001), and Susan Trimble (2002).



## NEWS FLASH

### Homecoming Alumni and Friends

The College of Education announces the launching of an inaugural winning tradition at Homecoming 2003 on October 25 at Paulson Stadium! Alumni, come meet Dean Chance and COE faculty and staff at the COE tent. Stop by and put your name in the hat for the chance to win a College of Education pewter plate. A brass commemorative keyring will be given to the first alumni to visit the tent from the classes of 2003, 1998, 1993, 1988, and 1978. Tokens of appreciation will be available to all COE alumni. Spend time with us reminiscing about the past and sharing the plans for future growth at the College of Education.

### Centennial

As the oldest college on campus, the College of Education has a rich and rewarding history at Georgia Southern University. As the university gears up for the celebration of 100 years of educational excellence, we invite alumni to be part of the planning process for the 2006 year-long gala celebration. If you have ideas for incorporating the College of Education's past into the university celebration, please e-mail Victoria Zwald at [vzwald@gasou.edu](mailto:vzwald@gasou.edu) with your suggestions.

### College of Education Board of Advisors

The Board of Advisors is composed of educators and business people with strong ties to the College of Education. Appointed by President Grube and Dean Chance, the board meets once per term providing advice, guidance and support in the development of high quality programs in the College and good relations with the larger community.

### Alumni Advisory Board

The Alumni Advisory Board includes teachers, administrators and staff who are proven leaders. Being advisory to the Dean and the faculty, the board considers matters regarding alumni relations and other areas pertaining to the College's external relations. It advises on matters regarding the education and academic programs so that the College and its programs may be responsive to the changing needs of the education community. Board members also share their insight and expertise as practitioners through classroom presentations, and they support recruitment efforts of the College.

Todd Williford ('99) serves as board chairperson. Please contact him at [twilliford@bulloch.k12.ga.us](mailto:twilliford@bulloch.k12.ga.us), if you have questions or an interest in serving on the board.

### External Relations Committee

The External Relations Committee is composed of administrators, faculty, staff and student organization presidents in the College of Education. In addition, the committee draws on the expertise of representatives from the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, and the College of Health and Human Services. This committee organizes activities to bring the work of the COE to the attention of the university, community, and the region. Contact Victoria Zwald at [vzwald@gasou.edu](mailto:vzwald@gasou.edu) for additional information.



# COE Soaring Into Action

## Department of Curriculum, Foundations and Reading

### Unit News

#### Dr. Dorothy Battle

- Paper presented: "The Values of Adolescents," (with Kaneshia Robinson) at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL. (Kaneshia is an undergraduate student majoring in the area of Middle Grades Education.)

#### Dr. Ming Fang He

- Collaborated on a winning research grant from the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada to study cultural harmonies and tensions in inner-city Canadian schools
- Editor: *Curriculum Inquiry*
- Associate Editor: *Multicultural Perspectives*
- Book published: *A river forever flowing: Cross-cultural lives and identities in the multicultural landscape*. Greenwich, CT: Information Age Publishing.

#### Dr. Michael McKenna

- Book published: *Assessment for reading instruction*. New York: Guilford. With Steve A. Stahl.

#### Dr. Marla Morris

- Article published: "Archiving Derrida," in *Educational Philosophy and Theory*, Vol. 35, No. 3, 397-312.

#### Dr. William Reynolds

- Book published: *Curriculum: A river runs through it*. New York: Peter Lang.
- Book translated into Chinese: *Understanding curriculum* (Vols. 1 & 2). With W. F. Pinar and others.
- Invited essay: "Debate, Nostalgia and Ressentiment," *Journal of Curriculum Studies*, Vol. 35.
- Invited essay: "Writing as a Way of Becoming: AND," *Journal of Critical Inquiry into Curriculum and Instruction*, Vol. 5.

## Education Advisement Center

### Unit News

Our staff consists of Betty-Ware Wray, Certification and Advisement Coordinator; Dixie Aubrey, Academic Advisor; Pauline deLaar, Academic Advisor; Chris Thompson, Recruitment Coordinator & Academic Advisor; and Gloria Martin, Administrative Secretary. Our office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

We have seen undergraduate enrollment increase 14% in the past two years. This increase is wonderful since it will help meet the demand for teachers, but it also has challenged us to alter our advisement approach.

In the late spring, our staff attended the Region IV Georgia Advisors' Workshop at Savannah State. During the discussion groups and breakout sessions, we were able to talk about retention initiatives, investing in student success and making viable connections as we communicate with our students.

Our staff continues to work diligently to provide the best advisement for the undergraduate education major population. We continue to refine our services to keep students involved in the College while working to integrate our activities into the larger campus.

## Instructional Resources Center

### Unit News

The Instructional Resources Center web page has been redesigned to include information on computer labs, equipment for circulation, and policy and procedures. Check it out at <http://coe.gasou.edu/irc/IRCHome.htm>.

At the end of spring semester, the IRC received funds for three mobile teaching stations and a "Smart Classroom". This equipment has been purchased and at present we are awaiting delivery of the computers for the stations. The "Smart Classroom" will be permanently housed in a classroom, while the mobile teaching stations will be available upon request from the IRC. Additionally, two digital video cameras were purchased and are available for circulation to those interested in pursuing multimedia projects.

The Ollie Mae Jernigan Children's Literature Collection will be dedicated this fall. Mrs. Jernigan's gift will be used to reflect her commitment to literacy and its critical role in education. Materials will be purchased to update the present IRC collection and add additional new titles.

## Department of Leadership, Technology and Human Development

### Unit News

The Educational Leadership Program, working with Counselor Education and Special Education, is providing a new program to school professionals who work for Associated Marine Institutes, Inc. This is a six course web-based program that helps these professionals, spread across eight states, to apply sound leadership, administrative and instructional methods to their setting, the juvenile justice system.

### Tenure & Promotions

Dr. Ken Clark and Dr. Judi Repman were promoted to Professor.

## Department of Teaching and Learning

### Unit News

A reorganized Ed.S. program in Teaching and Learning has been presented to the Board of Regents after over a year of much collaborative planning led by Dr. Deborah Thomas. Proposed to begin in this academic year, the degree will replace the existing Ed.S. degrees in early childhood, reading, middle grades, secondary, instructional technology, special education, and P-12 teaching fields. The degree will provide advanced graduate work for

those who currently hold M.Ed. degrees or certification in one of the existing approved teaching fields in Georgia.

Dr. Alice Hosticka and Dr. Greg Chamblee will be involved in math/science grants during the 2003-2004 academic year. They will be working with area schools involved in improving science and math instruction at the elementary school level.

### Tenure & Promotions

Dr. Greg Chamblee and Dr. Cherry Brewton were promoted to Associate Professor.

## The Postsecondary Readiness Enrichment Program PREP It Up!

### Unit News

Serving middle and high school students in Bulloch, Screven, and Effingham Counties PREP is "PREP'aring" for a year full of events to help students and their parents make timely and informed decisions about choices for education after high school graduation.

During summer 2003, PREP sponsored 50 students to camp programs directed by The 21st Century Leaders and the Magnolia Coastlands Area Health Education Agency. Along with visits to Georgia Southern University, the high school students attended week-long leadership and career programs at Marietta Polytechnic Institute, South Georgia State University, Savannah State University, and Medical College of Georgia.

The PREP is undergoing redevelopment for next year, but the program at Georgia Southern University started on September 10th to enhance the academic success of participants with the tutorial and mentor programs that link university students and highly skilled instructors with public school students.

"PREP'plan" to see us in a school near you!

## Office of Graduate Studies, Research, Sponsored Programs and Development

### Unit News

We are offering graduate programs at several off-campus sites including Augusta, Brunswick, Dublin, Effingham County, Liberty County, and Savannah. The Ed.D. programs in Curriculum Studies and in Education Administration continue to develop and expand to better serve the needs of the region.

Graduate faculty in Counselor Education, Educational Leadership, and teacher education continue to reflect on their programs in order to meet the expectations outlined in the USG Board of Regents' Principles. Graduate programs are becoming more involved in P-12 partnership activities, especially our Counselor Education and Educational Leadership faculty who have been involved in supporting school improvement and educator preparation with the Screven County Professional Development District. We will also be initiating several graduate opportunities through our new international initiatives, the International

Learning Community (U.K.) and Xalapa (Mexico).

Through all of these efforts, our graduate enrollments have increased dramatically over the past two years. The College of Education is consistently responsible for over two-thirds of all graduate enrollment at Georgia Southern! As we continue to focus on our graduate curriculum and meeting regional needs, we will also continue to work closely with the College of Graduate Studies and the Admissions Office to improve the graduate admission process.

The office has also been busy getting prepared for alumni and development activities. The Alumni Advisory Board and the COE's Board of Advisors will meet again this fall. We plan to celebrate Homecoming with our alumni at the football stadium and invite them to a special CLEC lecture in November (see article on page 8). We are gearing up for the University's Capital Campaign and look forward to highlighting the many wonderful opportunities for supporting the College of Education.

## Office of Undergraduate Teacher Education

### Unit News

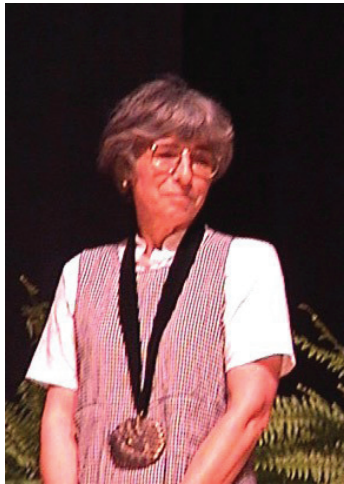
The office sponsored a Georgia Southern team to attend the International Learning Community conference held in Derby, England, from July 2-4. The team consisted of representatives from the College of Education, the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, the College of Graduate Studies, the Center for International Studies and Bulloch County Schools. The conference focused on student teacher exchanges, teacher exchanges, and joint research projects.

Dr. Amy Heaston joins the office as Director of Field Experiences and Partnerships. Dr. Heaston can be reached at [aheaston@gasou.edu](mailto:aheaston@gasou.edu).





## Dr. Schriver received University's Award for Excellence in Service



Dr. Marti Schriver, associate professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning, was recognized at the University's Fall 2003 Convocation Ceremony with an Award for Excellence in Service. The award, presented annually to two faculty members, recognizes faculty who use their academic disciplines to provide non-compensated assistance to the region as well as the academic community. With the award, Dr. Schriver will receive a summer contract with the University to continue research activities and to develop a mechanism to share her expertise with faculty, staff and students. The award was presented by University President Bruce Grube, and Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Vaughn Vandegrift on August 13, in the Performing Arts Center.



Cindi Chance, Dean of the College of Education (center) and Dianne Bath, assistant superintendent of Bulloch County Schools (right), recently presented a crystal eagle to Great Britain's Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex. Chance, Bath and a contingent of educators from Statesboro recently visited Derby, England, as part of the International Learning Community project. This project is a

collaborative effort between Georgia Southern's College of Education, the Bulloch County Schools, and universities and schools in the United Kingdom to exchange ideas, information and student teachers.

## Welcome New Faculty and Staff



**Dr. Scott A.L. Beck** joined the Department of Teaching and Learning as assistant professor this fall after completing his Ph.D. in Language Education at the University of Georgia during the summer of 2003. Dr. Beck taught at Georgia Southern during the previous three years as a temporary instructor in the Department of Early Childhood Education and Reading. He holds an M.Ed. in Middle Grades Curriculum and Instruction from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (1994), a B.A. in Linguistics from Cornell University (1987), and a Georgia Middle Grades teaching certificate with an ESOL teaching endorsement. Prior to teaching at Georgia Southern, Dr. Beck was Curriculum and Outreach Specialist for Live Oak Migrant Education Agency / First District RESA from 1994 to 1999. His research and writing focuses on issues of multilingual and multicultural education in the rural South, particularly regarding the region's fast-growing Mexican-heritage population. He has presented at a number of national and international conferences and has published both book chapters and in respected journals.



**Dr. Michael L. Daniel** joined the Department of Teaching and Learning as Assistant Professor of Special Education beginning fall 2003. Dr. Daniel holds an Ed.D. in Special Education from The University of Southern Mississippi (1996), and both an M.Ed. in Remediation/Special Education (1993) and a B.S. in Economics (1985) from Francis Marion University in Florence, South Carolina. Dr. Daniel has experience teaching at the graduate, undergraduate and high school levels. Prior to moving to Georgia Southern, he served as the Training Coordinator for the Youth with disabilities and Employment Success (YES) grant at the Institute for Disability Studies at the University of Southern Mississippi. His most recent scholarly work, a collaborative manuscript published in the May 2002 edition of *Intervention in School and Clinic*, is entitled "Teaching the History of Science to Students with Learning Disabilities."



**Dr. Sandra M. Nettles** was appointed Chair of the Department of Curriculum, Foundations and Reading effective July 1, 2003. Since 1994, Dr. Nettles had held the position of Associate Professor of Human Development in the College of Education at the University of Maryland at College Park. While at Maryland, she was Research Program Director with the University of Maryland Consortium on Race, Gender, and Ethnicity. She was also affiliated with the Institute for Minority Achievement & Urban Education and with the Afro-American Studies Program.

Dr. Nettles holds a Ph.D. in Psychology (1976) and an M.S. in Psychology (1974) from Howard University, an M.S. in Library Science (1968) from University of Illinois, and a B.A. in Philosophy (1967) from Howard University. Her research interests include school renewal; risk, resilience, and development in children and adults; community-school connections; informal learning in science, technology, and youth development; and psychological study of women.

Dr. Nettles succeeds Dr. Cordelia Douzenis Zinskie who served as acting chair for two years.



**Dr. Walter S. Polka** joined the Department of Leadership, Technology and Human Development in January 2003 as an associate professor with the Educational Leadership Program. He now also serves as coordinator for the program's M.Ed. and Ed.S. degrees. Dr. Polka received his Ed.D. in Curriculum Planning from SUNY at Buffalo (1977); an S.E.A. in Educational Administration (1974), M.S. in Educational Foundations (1971) and M.A. in History (1970) from Niagara University; and the B.A. in History from SUNY at Buffalo (1968). He has also completed post-doctorate studies at Harvard University and at Florida State University.

Dr. Polka has experience teaching at the high school level as well as teaching graduate level courses. He worked in school districts in New York as curriculum coordinator, assistant superintendent for instruction and superintendent. From 1990 until his move to Georgia Southern, he held the position of Superintendent of Schools at Lewiston-Porter Central School District in Youngstown, NY.



**Pat Lanier** is the new Administrative Secretary in the Department of Curriculum, Foundations and Reading. Ms. Lanier most recently worked as a legal secretary for a Statesboro attorney but has returned to the university community where she previously was secretary for four years in the Department of History.

*Southern Educator* is published twice a year by the College of Education, Georgia Southern University.

### Editors:

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## *A Day on Campus With Teachers of Tomorrow*

November 12<sup>th</sup> will see the arrival of high school students involved in Future Educator, Teacher Cadet, and Teacher Apprenticeship programs for the College of Education's "A Day on Campus with Teachers of Tomorrow." The participants will explore the question, "Why Teach?" The event will include a keynote address on teaching and small group sessions exploring a variety of topics such as career choices, classroom practices, preparing for college, and others. For more information, contact Dr. Amy Heaston at [ahouston@gasou.edu](mailto:ahouston@gasou.edu).

## **Living Learning Communities**

Two Living Learning Communities involving education majors can be found in the university's residence halls this year. The **Education FIG** (First-Year Interest Group) is in Watson Pods. There are approximately 30 freshman education majors in the group. The **Eagle Educators** are in Watson Commons with approximately 15 sophomore education majors in the group. The COE's Office of Undergraduate Teacher Education is actively planning ways to connect with and involve these freshmen and sophomores interested in education.



*Dean Chance and Dr. Shumaker in Veracruz, Mexico.*

## *Xalapa Teachers Program*



*Partner Middle School in Veracruz, Mexico.*

Dean Cindi Chance and Dr. Nancy Shumaker, Director of the Center for International Studies, visited schools and universities in the state of Veracruz, Mexico, in May 2003 to develop cooperative exchange programs with Georgia Southern and those institutions.

The College of Education is collaborating with two universities in Xalapa, to bring a group of newly-graduated Mexican teachers to the U.S. These teachers will assist in Georgia classrooms as paraprofessionals for one year and then assume the responsibilities of a classroom teacher for two additional years. During that time, they will complete a Master's program in the College of Education. This will be a wonderful opportunity for the visiting teachers, but also for Georgia Southern's faculty, students, and partner schools. We hope to find many ways to address issues related to diversity while these teachers are with us.



*Small rural elementary school in coffee growing mountains, Veracruz, Mexico.*



*Dean Chance presented books about Georgia to five schools.*

## **Georgia Southern at Oxford**



*Kristen Denney and Dr. Don Rakestraw in front of Wadham College, Oxford University*



*Students visit Cardiff Castle, Wales*



*Mindy Swain visiting with school children*

In summer 2003, ten graduate students participated in the Georgia Southern at Oxford Program. The group visited upper and lower level secondary schools in Oxfordshire and participated in sessions with British educators at the Wadham College campus. Through these experiences, the students were able to compare and contrast the educational systems and cultural issues impacting schools and children's learning.

The program participants also studied topics related to Anglo-American relations using primary sources located at the British National Archives. With the continuing "war on terrorism," the "special relationship" between the U.K. and the U.S. has even more meaning and made this study particularly relevant and interesting.

There was ample opportunity to sightsee in London and throughout the countryside. Excursions were made to Bath, Windsor, Canterbury, Stonehenge, and Cardiff, Wales. The students enjoyed a day at Kentwell Hall, a grand Tudor manor that comes to life each year with the recreation of Tudor life of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, followed by a meal at Hatfield House with entertainment by King Henry VIII and his daughter Elizabeth I. The program this year was the best ever in all respects, thanks to the wonderfully inquisitive and adventurous group of students.



*Banquet meal at the Old Palace, Hatfield House (circa 1497), the childhood home of Elizabeth I*

*For more information on COE programs and activities, visit the College of Education's website at <http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/>*



# Southern Educator Class Roll

## 1951

**Hazel E. Donaldson Altman** retired in 1980 after teaching for 32 years. She taught in Baxley, Bacon, Coffee and Jeff Davis counties. She has been married for 55 years and has one son, Don. She lives in Alma, Georgia.

## 1966

**Marilyn Woody Bass** is currently teaching biology, anatomy & physiology and AP Biology at The Savannah Arts Academy, a charter school in Savannah, Georgia.

## 1968

**"Jesse" E. Bradley Jr.** resides in Griffin, Georgia. He has been the superintendent of the Griffin-Spalding County School System since April 1997. He was Education Supervisor and Deputy Warden from 1993-1997 with the Georgia Department of Corrections. He also was a teacher, assistant principal, principal and superintendent in Tattnall County, Georgia. From 1976-1982 he was a banker at The Tattnall County Bank in Reidsville, Georgia.

## 1969

**Judy E. Stevens O'Neal** taught French and English at Southeast Bulloch High School and then moved to UGA where she received her M.Ed. in 1976. She taught for 2 more years at Athens Academy. After moving to Savannah, she taught at Calvary Baptist Day School until 1989. She, her husband John and daughter Laura moved to Tybee Island in 1983. She obtained her real estate license in 1989 and is now Broker and President of Tybee Island Realty, which she and her husband own together. She is also a free lance writer for *The Tybee Breeze* entertainment magazine.

## 1972

**(Linda) Sharon Coleman Musselwhite** was an elementary, middle and gifted classroom teacher from 1972 through 1990 in Cobb County, Dekalb County and Waycross City Schools. She was RESA Consultant for the Okefenokee RESA from 1990-2003. She received her Ed.S. in Leadership from Valdosta State University. She is the mother of two, Ryan (26) also a Georgia Southern graduate and Ross (24) a graduate of UGA.

## 1974

**Debra Allen Davis** taught school from 1975-1980. She has been a single parent since 1992. She has also taught at a private school in Macon and currently works out of her home in Macon as a bookkeeper. Her oldest son Daniel is a graduate of UGA and is presently in school in Italy. Her daughter Christie is a sophomore at Georgia State University. Julie, when a freshman at Georgia Southern, died in February 1998 on her way home. Her youngest son John is a sophomore in high school.

**Rebecca "Becky" A. Morgan Dorminey**, lives in Cordele, Georgia, with her husband of 25 years. In 1974-75 she taught

1<sup>st</sup> grade in Florida. She taught kindergarten for 2 years in Macon and then moved back "home" to Cordele where she taught in the same elementary school for 26 years. She has two grown children and one grandchild. Her son and daughter-in-law are both Georgia Southern graduates

## 1975

**Caro Joyce Odum Roberts** lives in Sylvania, Georgia. She retired after 30 years of teaching special education.

**Linda Calhoun Lynes** was a school counselor for 30 of her 32 years in education, with 27 of them at Windsor Forest High in Savannah. She retired in June 2002. She currently is the Program Leader for School Counselors and Social Workers for the Savannah/Chatham County School System. Her youngest child, Abby, is a sophomore at Georgia Southern and is a Southern Ambassador with the Admissions Office. Her middle child, Paige, is in the M.Ed. program at Georgia Southern.

## 1976

**Grace D. Smith** retired in May 1992, from Statesboro High School. She lives in Statesboro, Georgia.

**Susan Spinks Lee** has taught middle school English for the past 26 years in Brunswick, Georgia. She has one daughter, Mallery, a high school senior.

**Lisa Cowart Trim** resides in Reidsville, Georgia. She taught school for 17 years at Reidsville High, worked as a counselor for 6 years at Tattnall County High, and served as assistant principal at Reidsville Elementary for one year and principal for 3 years at Reidsville Middle School. In summer, 2003, she assumed the duties of Special Education Director.

## 1981

**Cheri F. Beall Hawkins** has been teaching kindergarten since 1981. She currently is working on her master's at Georgia Southern and will graduate in 2004. Cheri resides in Dublin, Georgia.

## 1982

**Roger S. Burgoon** lives in Statesboro, Georgia. He was a media specialist in 1973-74 in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. From 1975-1998 he was a media specialist at Stilson Elementary in Bulloch County.

**Roberta A. Averett Johnson** has taught 5<sup>th</sup> grade in Twin City for 21 years. She is married to Von Johnson, principal of Swainsboro High school. They have one son, Jeremiah, a sophomore at Emanuel County Institute in Twin City.

**Mitzi Timmons Jones** lives in Stone Mountain, Georgia, with her husband David and her two sons. After graduation she worked for the Chatham County School System for two years and then moved to the metro-Atlanta area. She worked for the Dekalb County School System as a preschool special education

teacher beginning in 1986. She completed her Master's in 1991, her leadership certification requirements in 1998 and her administration certification requirements in 2002 by attending the State University of West Georgia. In 1998 she was the Lead Teacher for Special Education and in 2002 accepted a position as principal.

**Barbara J. Hayes Brown** has taught special education at Screven County Middle School for 25 years. Since 1990 she has been an adjunct instructor with Georgia Southern University. She was the 2004 Teacher of the Year for Screven County and one of 5 finalists for Georgia Teacher of the Year 2004. She also has been a waitress at Vandy's BBQ for the past 32 years. She is married to EJ Brown and has one son, Matt.

## 1983

**Julie A. Bland Lavender** has recently moved back to Statesboro after 18 years away. Her husband David's career as a medical entomologist in the United States Navy moved the family nine different times. They have lived in six different states and have had the opportunity to visit many different countries. Julie's second book, *365 Days of Celebration and Praise: Daily Devotions and Activities for Homeschooling Families*, has just been released from Jossey-Bass Publishers. Julie and David have four children.

## 1985

**Charlotte Lavender Kimsey** resides in Monroe, Georgia. She is retired from teaching pre-K through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and adult literacy.

## 1986

**Melanie Davis Jones** taught kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades for 10 years. She stayed at home with her three boys, Trent 8, Justin 6 and Cameron 2, for six years. While at home she also pursued a career in publishing. Her first picture book, *Pigs Rock!* came out in spring 2003 with Viking. She returned to teaching this year as an EIP reading teacher in Warner Robins, Georgia, where she lives.

## 1987

**Jennifer B. Funderburk** taught mathematics for 12 years in Colquitt County. She completed an education specialist degree in secondary mathematics and added the Leadership certification from Valdosta State University. She received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching in 1998 and was a state finalist for the 1998 Georgia Teacher of the Year. She also received a GTE Growth Initiatives for Teachers Grant in 1993. For the past 4 years she was an assistant principal at Colquitt County High School and is currently the Director for School/Community Relations and Middle School Grades Curriculum for Colquitt County Schools. She resides in Moultrie with her husband Darrell, an assistant principal at Colquitt County High School, and their 3 year old daughter Elizabeth.

## 1991

**Lawanda Peacock Gillis** is teaching 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade math at Dodge County Middle School in Eastman, Georgia. She is currently working on National Board Certification in Early Adolescence Mathematics. She began work on her Ed.D. in Curriculum Studies at Georgia Southern in the fall semester, 2003.

## 1993

**Susan E. Mason Robertson** has taught 3<sup>rd</sup> grade in Chatham County Public Schools for 7 years. She received her master's in 1999. Currently she teaches 1<sup>st</sup> grade at a private school in Chatham County. She resides in Savannah with her husband Doug, (they married in 1995) and their children, Matthew 4, Morgan 18 months and Michael born in June.

**Anjanette M. Stewart** resides in Savannah, Georgia.

## 1995

**Jenna Morris Blackwell** has been teaching middle school for seven years in Hall County. She completed her master's in middle grades education at Brenau University in 1999. She recently had her second son, Bodie, who joins 2 year old Bryce. Jenna lives in Gainesville, Georgia.

**Cynthia M. Griffin** teaches 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Blakeney Elementary in Waynesboro, Georgia. She will graduate in 2003 from Troy State with her M.Ed. in Leadership/Technology. She presently serves as Lt. Governor for the Georgia Optimist and is a Girl Scout leader and trainer. She also is a very active member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha graduate chapter in Midville, Georgia. She was Teacher of the Year in 1999 and is presently serving as a mentor in the Burke County School System.

**Fred "Bubba" J. Longgrear** lives in Glennville, Georgia, with his wife Lisa Brannen Longgrear (1996) and their first child, Jackson who was born in March, 2003. He received his doctorate in educational leadership in 2000 and is in his second year serving as principal at Tattnall County High School in Reidsville.

## 1996

**Tracey E. Embly Pace** lives in Clio, Georgia. She received her Th.D. from Anderson Theological Seminary in May 2000. She also is the founder and president of the Heritage Counseling Center, PC, in Rincon, Georgia, and a Georgia licensed professional counselor, since 1999.

**Catharine S. Warth-Emerly** resides in Pt. Charlotte, Florida, with her husband Dr. Hamilton "Kip" Emery III. They were married in February 1998. She is a school psychologist and became a Nationally Certified Behavior Analyst several years ago.

## 1997

**Carol D. Miller Lemke** lives in Hinesville, Georgia. She taught art education in Metter and Savannah for four years and then worked at the Savannah College of

Art and Design for two years. She currently is a stay at home mom with her newborn son and works in her art studio.

### 1999

**Alicia L. Pate Elder** lives in Forsyth, Georgia. She taught two years of 7<sup>th</sup> grade life science and one year of 8<sup>th</sup> grade Earth science in 1999-2002. She obtained her master's in middle grades from Georgia Southwestern State University in 2001 and her masters in education administration in May 2003. She served as the 6<sup>th</sup> grade assistant principal at Upson-Lee Middle School in 2002-2003. In 2003-2004 she is an assistant principal at Hubbard Primary.

### 2000

**Blair Henderson Ivey** married Jim Ivey (1997) and resides in Kennesaw, Georgia, with Drake, their chocolate lab. She is beginning her fourth year at Bullard Elementary in Cobb County teaching 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

### 2001

**Angie L. Greene Gourley** lives in Douglas, Georgia, with her husband and son, Will, born October 22, 2002. She has taught 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, at Eastside Elementary.

**Mindy M. Cook Skinner** has taught pre-K for 3 years, taught at Cedarwood Psychoeducational Program for 4 years and also taught a student with autism at Cedarwood. She began the Ed.S. program in summer 2003. She currently resides in Statesboro with her husband and three children.

### 2002

**Pamela S. Corley** resides in Douglasville, Georgia. She has been working with a variety of students. She's had the opportunity to work with troubled teenage girls at the YDC and has thoroughly enjoyed it.

### 2003

**Hannah L. Helton** is attending graduate school at the University of South Carolina, Columbia. Her major is Speech-Language Pathology.

**Mary-Esther Sexson Hartley** resides in Savannah, Georgia, with her husband/childhood sweetheart, Dustin Hartley. She earned her undergraduate degree in 1997 from Georgia Southern and just completed her master's. She has taught special education in Savannah for the past 6 years.

### IN MEMORY OF

**Dr. William Lawrence Hitchcock**  
6/29/19 to 7/14/03

**Professor Emeritus**  
**Educational Psychology and Counseling**  
September 15, 1960 through September 1, 1979  
College of Education, Georgia Southern University

## "Highly Qualified" Teachers A Focus of No Child Left Behind

Last November, Associate Dean Dr. Jennie Rakestraw was asked by the PSC to help coordinate the state's Title II-A efforts of the NCLB legislation. Over the past months, Dr. Rakestraw has been instrumental in development of a set of guidelines for the implementation of Title II-A for Georgia and an evaluation instrument that will be used by systems beginning this fall to assess whether or not veteran teachers who are not certified to teach subjects they are teaching meet the criteria of "highly qualified" as defined in NCLB. She and the PSC staff have developed a unique database that uses teacher certification data and teaching assignment data to help systems determine if their teachers meet the definition of "highly qualified" and to help calculate baseline percentages of "highly qualified" teachers in Title I and non-Title I schools with annual targets.

Since January 2003, a team of Title II-A consultants was formed to provide information and assistance to local school systems. Although Dr. Rakestraw is no longer coordinating Title II-A for the state, she continues to serve as a consultant to the school systems in the First District RESA and Okefenokee RESA districts.

For more information, see <http://www.gapsc.com/nclb/home.html>.

## Congratulations

**Barbara Brown**  
**of Screven County Middle School**  
**Finalist for Georgia Teacher of the Year 2004**

## The College of Education Memorial Scholarship

The College of Education Memorial Scholarship was established in 1983 by a group of Marvin Pittman Laboratory faculty to honor those who chose teaching as a career. It is a living memorial in that the interest earned on the principal is used to annually fund a scholarship for a young person who is preparing to teach. The first scholarship was awarded in 1986 and has been awarded annually.

We are proud of the scholarship and of those individuals whose names appear on the plaque which reads:

*This plaque honors those who have served Georgia Southern and the field of Education. In their memory, the College of Education Memorial Scholarship Fund has been established.*

Evelyn Anderson	Malcolm Katz
Paul F. Carroll	Dorris Lindsey
Marjorie Crouch	Walter B. Mathews
Elizabeth Donovan	J. Aubrey Pafford
Marion Dozier	Jacquelyn R. Russell
Bertha Freeman	Gladys Waller
Zach S. Henderson	Marie Wood

Anyone may make a contribution to the College of Education Memorial Scholarship Fund through the Georgia Southern Foundation (account #3284) as a gift or in memory of a COE or Marvin Pittman Laboratory School faculty/staff member. With a gift of \$150, the name of a former faculty/staff member will be added to the plaque. Contact Dianne Hickman at [dianyh@gasou.edu](mailto:dianyh@gasou.edu) for further information.

## 15<sup>th</sup> Annual National Youth-At-Risk Conference



Jim Brown

Over 100 presentations at the 15<sup>th</sup> National Youth-at-Risk Conference, March 7-10, 2004, will focus on the theme, *Successful Programs for Empowering Youth: Overcoming Poverty, Violence, and Failure*. The conference will provide participants with information on research-based programs and strategies to reduce at-risk conditions that threaten student safety, health, emotional well-being or academic achievement. Conference sessions will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Savannah.

The conference is designed for educators of all levels, health and human service personnel, criminal justice professionals, business and community leaders, volunteer service providers, social workers, preventionists, and others interested in the well being of youth. Several "High Flying Schools" with high levels of achievement, poverty, and minority representation will be showcased. Keynote speakers include **Jim Brown**, Hall of Fame football player and President/Founder of the Amer-I-can Program in Los Angeles; **Betsy Roger**, National Teacher of the Year, 2003; **Diane Antolak**, Principal of Reid Ross Classical Middle and High School, a "High Flying School" in Fayetteville, NC; and **J. David Hawkins**, Director of the Social Development Research Group, University of Washington, Seattle Washington.

For more information, see <http://conted.gasou.edu/yar.html> or contact the Georgia Southern Division of Continuing Education and Public Service at 912-681-5557.

## International Schooling Colloquium

On November 3, the Center for the Study of International Schooling is sponsoring a colloquium on the topic *UK-USA: Partnership in Education*. For more information, contact Dr. Gregory Dmitriyev at [gregodmi@gasou.edu](mailto:gregodmi@gasou.edu).



## Garbarino to present *And Words Can Hurt Forever*

Dr. James Garbarino of Cornell University will visit Georgia Southern on November 10, and present a lecture on the topic *And Words Can Hurt Forever*, at 7:30pm in the College of Education Lecture Hall. Dr. Garbarino is Co-Director of the Family Life Development Center and Elizabeth Lee Vincent Professor of Human Development at Cornell University.

He has served as consultant or advisor to a wide range of organizations, including the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse, the National Institute for Mental Health, the American Medical Association, the National Black Child Development Institute, Childwatch International Research Network, the U.S. Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect, and the FBI. In 1991 he undertook missions for UNICEF to assess the impact of the Gulf War upon children in Kuwait and Iraq, and has served as a consultant for programs serving Bosnian and Croatian children.

Dr. Garbarino has authored or edited many books including *And Words Can Hurt Forever: How to Protect Adolescents from Bullying, Harassment and Emotional Violence* (NY: The Free Press, 2003) by James Garbarino and Ellen deLara.

Dr. Garbarino's presentation, co-sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences and the College of Education, is free and open to all students, faculty, and members of the community.

## Georgia Center for Education Renewal

The newly established Center for Education Renewal focuses on partnerships to facilitate improved teaching and learning in schools, especially for under-served populations. Beginning this fall, under the leadership of an interim director, the Center will promote existing and new partnerships among members of the P-16 community—locally, statewide, nationally, and internationally. The Center will facilitate the activities of the National Network for Educational Renewal (NNER) and HOLMES memberships, the Center for the Study of International Schooling, the Center for Educational Leadership and Service, and the COE Publications Center.

During the 2003-04 academic year, a national search is being conducted to fill the position of *Goizueta Endowed Chair in Educational Administration/Leadership and Founding Director of the Georgia Center for Education Renewal*. The College invites applications and nominations for this newly established 12-month, tenure-track position. For the full position description, see <http://coe.gasou.edu/eltr/searches.htm>.



*2003-2004 COE Faculty and Staff*

## News from the Field

Welcome to the new clinical associates: Missy Akins at Effingham County High School, Amy Holt at Metter Elementary, Terri Johnson at Springfield Central Elementary, and Elaine Lewis at Claxton Elementary. We look forward to working with them.

To our new and returning demonstration teachers, we say welcome. Their expertise, experience, and support are vital components of our programs. Thank you for being a part of our team!

## STAY TUNED

The College of Education is launching a dynamic opportunity to involve alumni and friends of the college in a commemorative project. Watch your mailbox for further details to be included in a Fall mailing!

## 2002 Beginning Teacher Survey

The 2002 Beginning Teacher Survey\* investigated the success of PSC-approved teacher education programs in preparing beginning teachers. Surveys were distributed to all beginning teachers in Georgia's public school systems and to the teachers' principals. 986 surveys of beginning teachers and the corresponding principal surveys were analyzed. 62 Georgia Southern graduates of teacher preparation programs completed the survey. 98.4% of the Georgia Southern graduates reported overall readiness to teach. 98.4% of principals concurred that the graduates were ready to teach. Two anonymous graduates offered the following comments regarding their level of preparation at Georgia Southern University:

*Georgia Southern University does a good job of preparing teachers. They equipped me with the tools that I needed in the classroom. It was up to me to apply what I learned. My professors taught me to reflect and improve on my management and instruction daily.*

*I found that Georgia Southern University prepared me very well in becoming a first year teacher. I consider myself to be a successful first year teacher. I applaud GSU for giving me a wide range of field experiences as well as a good curriculum and methodology.*

\*The survey was the work of the Division for Educator Workforce Research and Development of the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC).



## ALUMNI: WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE YOU?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*First*

*Middle*

*Last*

*Maiden*

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*City*

*State*

*Zip*

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Degree/Major: \_\_\_\_\_

What have you been doing since graduation?

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Return to: Southern Educator -- P.O. Box 8013 -- College of Education -- Georgia Southern University -- Statesboro, GA 30460-8013